

wild asparagus farm

showing me round  
your farm your  
feet so soiled

also your hands  
digging into the  
ground you

complain it's sandy  
but smile  
not having to

plant this portion  
coming here only  
when you please.

the air moves as

as new  
playing cards  
the air moves as

cold  
quivering poplars  
decay of

mountain ash berries  
in orange clusters  
there

the final  
seizure  
by robins.

-- Ronald Baatz

North Arlington, NJ

Ladder

When 4 I thot  
if you could find or  
make a ladder tall enough  
to reach past the clouds  
you could reach God  
but it scared me to  
think about climbing a  
ladder that tall because  
it was bound to be wobbly  
& ricketty & scarier the  
higher up you got.

Scrambling

last week feeling pushed  
to finish up for Crocker  
show slammed drawing finger  
in car door in front of  
Lucky's people all over  
so holding breath reopened  
door with left hand &  
nonchalantly went about  
my business bleeding  
ever so slightly